

Never in the history of the people composing a political party, had a greater responsibility resting upon them. The whole country have been waiting and watching the future of the Republican party all over the country, and it is a source of the highest congratulation, and a great triumph of conservatism, that the convention did not suffer such men as Julian, Riley and others to rule it, and that so wise and moderate a policy was adopted.

In refusing to reaffirm the Philadelphia Platform, the Convention acted wisely. There is but one question for the people to decide now. It is not whether we shall have a National Bank, Protective Tariff, nor are we specially concerned at present as to whether it is in the power of Congress to legislate slavery in or out of the Territories, but a firm resistance to that monster iniquity which the Administration is endeavoring to force upon us—the admission of Kansas under the fraudulent Leecompton Constitution without its submission to the people of that Territory. This we affirm is the great issue at the present day. Let this first be disposed of, after which there will be ample time to consider other questions, mentioned in that Platform. To have reaffirmed the Philadelphia Platform would have precluded thousands of honest Democrats from co-operating with the Republicans in the great and paramount object of defeating this fraud by the revival of old feuds.

As to the gentlemen nominated we know but little of them personally, but we have heard that confidence in the intelligence and integrity of the men composing the Convention, to believe the selections to be as good as could be made, and that each are capable of discharging their respective duties with ability and distinction.

Kansas and Minnesota.

As announced last week, Senator Green of Missouri, submitted a plan for the consideration of Congress, by which Kansas and Minnesota are to be admitted together—one a free, and the other a Slave State. Whoever heard of such petty villainy as this? A plan no doubt concocted by the administration, and Senator Green is made its mouthpiece. We look upon this proposition as a reiteration of the threats made by Senator Mason, some time since—as much as to say—refuses us the admission of Kansas with the Leecompton attachment, and we will refuse you the admission of Minnesota. To consent to any such a compromise of principle, for the sake of admitting Minnesota, which has an unquestionable right to admission without a word of controversy, would be an outrage upon reason and will never be submitted to.

It is believed by many of the best men in Congress, including Mr. Crittenden, that Minnesota is already a State by virtue of the enabling act of last winter authorizing it to become a State, by forming a Republican Constitution, which has been done, and her Senators and Representatives are now claiming their seats in Congress.

All honest men of all parties have one common interest in defeating this, and every other species of fraud which the administration is trying to practice upon the American people, the Democracy is particular if they have any regard for principle and consistency, will not suffer themselves to be hoodwinked by any such base proposal.

If Kansas is forced into the Union without a submission of her Constitution to the people, a storm of indignation will be raised, which the anti-Nebraska excitement of 1854, will be but a gentle zephyr in comparison with the whirlwind that will sweep all over the country, and which will prostrate the Democratic party forever. The Democracy of Indiana, and we may say that the Democracy of the entire north, voted for Mr. Buchanan under the impression that he was a firm and reliable friend of Popular Sovereignty, and the Democratic orators in this State, including Gov. Wright, went so far as to make it appear that he desired Kansas to become a free State. These men have found themselves sorely deceived, and though they appear to be holding on to the party, like drowning men to a straw, as evinced in their action at the late anti-Leecompton meeting at Indianapolis, when the time comes to vote they will abandon the party, and mark ye, the administration party, this fall, will meet with a rout such as has never been witnessed in political annals.

The Liberty Herald says: "The failure of Mr. Leander Ward will be felt mostly by the farmers, but the losses fall upon those who are able to bear it. The rumor that he would pull others down with him is incorrect."

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East Tuesday, you know, was Monday. Grand was observed here to some extent, perhaps not so much, however, as some years since. Several balls, some masked, and some full dress, were given by different parties, and thus closed the gay season and, doubtless many young hearts were wooed and won ere it ended.

There was a grand burst up of the Smith Lottery, of this city, during the past week. For some months past a member of the widely known family of Smiths has been calling attention to his great lottery scheme of \$100,000, the principal prize being \$10,000, in gold coin. This Smith was represented by a man named Packard. Observation proves a member of the patrons of Smith were ladies and mostly from the country as the many "valuable letters" received by him, and returning as many tickets as a *quid pro quo* would show. Packard wrote a letter to his clerk asking he thought the climate of New Orleans would no longer agree with him and thus left immediately. The books and papers found in the office, show pretty definitely, that his receipts must have been about \$20,000, all which he doubtless took with him, and so ended the grand swindling lottery scheme of Mr. R. Smith & Co.

Business is very brisk, as a walk on the levy would clearly prove to the most disinterested, and prices for most descriptions of produce have been well maintained. Cotton, however, has been a little depressed. Sugar and molasses have met with a good demand at higher rates. Flour and corn have improved, with moderate supplies and good demand. Provisions have generally bro't higher prices, though there has been a little fluctuation in one or two articles.

Mr. Editor.—The people are beginning to talk about a suitable candidate for Congress, at our next election. I know of no one more suitable, or one who would give more general satisfaction to the voters of this district, than Judge Hackleman, of Rush County. He is a man of sterling integrity, fine ability and one of the best political orators in the State.

Judge Hackleman would not only receive a cordial support from the Republican party of Franklin County, where he was born and raised, but he would doubtless receive the votes of a large number of Democrats, though not a Democrat himself according to Mr. Wynn's rule, for he is not a good judge of Whisky.

"A DEMOCRAT."

Steam Boat Burned.

At New Albany on the 4th instant, the steamer R. J. Lockwood, a new boat just finished, commanded by Capt. Lamathe, while rounding out from the wharf with a party of sixty or seventy excursionists on board, took fire in the watchman's room, and was soon enveloped in flames.

The pilot succeeded in running the boat to the Kentucky shore, where all on board were landed in safety, some jumping from the hurricane deck.

The boat floated down the river a short distance and sank. She will prove a total loss.

We understand that she was uninsured.

In the speeches, in the resolutions and in all the proceedings of the "mass meeting," not a word of censure can be found against Black Republicanism. This was a remarkable feature of the "Democratic Mass Meeting of the 25d." Rushville Jacksonian.

Poor benighted fellow—worse by half, than the old lady in the mountains who had been prevailing upon her husband for years to take the papers. "Hav'n't you heard of the big fight in the Dimmerger party, to which the Republicans are only admitted as spectators? Come down to Brookville and get posted a little."

A meeting of the Directors of the Bank of the State of Indiana was recently held at Indianapolis, the object of which was to consider the expediency of reinstating the Branch at Jeffersonville, which was suspended sometime since for irregularity. No definite action was had and the matter was continued until the next regular meeting in April.

Resolution. The delegates present from each Congressional District select three persons from their several Districts to cast the vote of the District in a general nominating committee.

Mr. Mace of Tippecanoe moved to refer it to the committee on resolutions, which was adopted by a large majority.

During the retirement of the Committees, a loud and earnest call was made for Samuel W. Parker, a favorite Ex-Member of Congress, who appeared and was cordially received.

Judge Morton remarked, this gentleman needs no introduction from me to Indiana.

We regret that our space will not admit of a report of this gentleman's speech.

PERMANENT ORGANIZATION.

When Mr. Parker was through the Committee on Permanent Organization reported by Mr. J. R. Cravens, as follows.

PRESIDENT.—Hon. O. P. Morton.

Vice Presidents.
Jno. D. Braler, of Spencer;
Alfred Hays, of Scott;
Wm. M. Dunn, of Jefferson;
George Holland, of Franklin;
William H. Fisher, of Henry;
Nathan Earlwine, of Shelby;
Geo. K. Steele, of Park;
John Beard, of Montgomery;
Thos. S. Stanfield, of St. Joseph;
Wm. Mitchell, of Noble;
Robert Cissna, of Wabash;

Secretaries.—Principal.
D. R. Sulgrove, of Indianapolis.

Assistants.
C. W. Brown, of Putnam;
Judge Metcalf, of Elkhart;
Mr. Andrews, of Posey;
Leonidas Sexton, of Rush.

Hon. O. P. Morton's speech.

On taking the chair, Mr. Morton said: "I thank you for the honor you have done me in calling me to preside over you, and assure you that if I shall discharge my duties well it must be with your help. I ask of you that your proceedings shall be conducted in a spirit of harmony. It is idle to expect that what we do shall be exactly what everybody wants. Such a Convention as that never was held. There are diversities of opinion as to the platform, and as to the candidates. But whatever these differences were we hoped that when a candidate was nominated, every man in the Convention would consider that nomination his own act." (Applause.) He then spoke at some length of the changing phases of politics produced by the gradual aggression of slavery which has swallowed up one question after another till at last there is no other issue before the country. The Republicans had predicted this when the Kansas bill passed. That measure took the power over slavery from Congress, and now the ruffians with the President had taken the power from the people. (Applause.) After dwelling upon the effects of that bill he lofty, he said that now the pro-slavery party had taken every foot of territory from the North. Mr. Buchanan had said that Kansas was as much a slave State as Georgia. If it were so, Nebraska and Washington were equally surrendered to slavery, and there was no free territory in the Union. Kansas was now a slave State, and if admitted under the Leecompton fraud she would continue a slave State, and nothing could change it but a bloody revolution. He then discussed briefly but forcibly some of the prominent features of the gigantic infamy, and urged that Mr. Buchanan in forcing it upon the people of Kansas was doing what Louis Napoleon did in France, and Francis Joseph in Hungary. He then spoke with some allusions to the sectional character of the Supreme Court of the United States, and the necessity for an organization of it would allow a fair representation of the people, intelligence, and power of the north in it. It had been made the tool of the slave power, and for years it had been operated on with the purpose of securing just such action from it as was taken in the Dred Scott case. He concluded by urging the importance of harmony, and assuring the meeting of success in the coming struggle. We have not space to give anything like a sketch of his speech, which was, like all his efforts, strong, massive and convincing. On the conclusion of it the regular business of the Convention was begun.

PROCEEDINGS.

Mr. Hudson, of Vigo, moved that a committee of two from each Congressional District be appointed by the chair to prepare a platform for the meeting, which was adopted.

Mr. Farquhar offered a resolution requiring "all resolutions offered to the Convention to be referred to the Convention without debate," which was amended so as to require them to be read before reference, and adopted.

Mr. Moreau moved that a committee of one from each Congressional District be appointed to select a State Central Committee, which was amended so as to require that committee to select three from each District to compose the State Central Committee, and was thus amended, adopted.

Mr. H. D. Scott, of Vigo, moved that a committee of one from each district be appointed to select candidates to be presented to the Convention.

Mr. Farquhar, of Franklin, moved to

That the delegates present from each Congressional District select three persons from their several Districts to cast the vote of the District in a general nominating committee.

3d. That the delegates present from each Congressional District select three persons from their several Districts to cast the vote of the District in a general nominating committee.

4th. That a majority of votes in the nominating convention be necessary to a nomination.

5th. That the nominations made be reported to the convention for adoption or rejection.

Mr. Farquhar objected to the report that the Convention had but a little time before decided on a different plan of voting, and offered the following substitute.

To so amend as to entitle each county represented in this Convention to one vote in a committee on nominations, and for every five hundred votes cast for Hon. O. P. Morton for Governor in 1850 shall be entitled to one additional vote for every five hundred additional votes—each county to select its own delegate to cast its vote in said committee.

Mr. Ray defended the report and the plan proposed by it, as the most practicable and one that could be adopted. By Mr. Farquhar's plan it would take several days to get all the candidates nominated.

At this point the chair announced the following committee on the Platform:

PLATFORM COMMITTEE.

1st. James Mason, James E. Veach;
2d. W. E. Gresham, Alfred Hays;
3d. Wm. M. Dunn, M. C. Hunter;
4th. W. Cumbach, P. A. Hackleman;
5th. H. L. Bundy, S. Merdith;
6th. Metzger, W. R. Harrison;
7th. N. Hudson, D. C. Donahue;
8th. H. S. Lane, Godlove S. Orth;
9th. Weir, K. G. Siryock;
10th. G. Harris, A. W. Hendry;
11th. D. Murry, J. M. Wallace.

The debate on the report in regard to the mode of voting was then resumed. Mr. Merdith, of Wayne, opposed the report on the same grounds as those urged by Mr. Farquhar.

Mr. Ray replied, advocating the committee's plan, briefly. He said that the people of each District chose the committee, and that was security enough that the people would not be tricked.

Mr. Parker thought the committee's plan best, but believed three from each District, making thirty-three, would be altogether too large. One would be enough.

Mr. Farquhar again spoke briefly in favor of amendment. A motion was made to lay his amendment on the table, which was put to vote and decided to be carried. Some misunderstanding as to the question having arisen, a second vote was taken, and decided to be in the affirmative. A division was called for, which was again decided in the affirmative, and Mr. Farquhar's amendment was laid upon the table.

The various Districts were then called by the President, and the places appointed for their delegates to meet to appoint their committeemen. On motion the Convention then adjourned till 2 o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Convention re-assembled at 2 o'clock.

The committee for the nomination of a State Central Committee was announced.

SPEECH OF GEO. W. JULIAN.

Mr. Geo. W. Julian was called for, and remarked that the Republican party was born and baptized at Philadelphia in 1855. The platform enacted there has been endorsed by one and a half million of voters. Is there any propriety in modifying or reconsidering the platform of our National political faith? Although I denominated, and do denounce the infamous Leecompton swindle, and would that the vocabulary of epithets more abundant in effective terms—yet, that merely, is but an ephemeral issue—let us strike, not at a pimple, but at the gangrene of Slavery outside of slave-holding States, but don't make a modified platform—a scapegoat for your own recency.

After several addresses, the Committee reported that they had unanimously agreed on the following

THE PLATFORM.

The Republicans of Indiana, in Mass Convention assembled, proclaim the following

DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES.

1. That our National Government ought to be so administered as to promote harmony between the different sections of our country, secure the affections of all the people of the United States, and command the respect of the Nations of the earth.

2. That the people of a Territory when they come to form a constitution preparatory to their admission into the Union of a State have the right to adopt a constitution, being Republican in form, as may be acceptable to themselves, and that no State ought to be received into the Union before the constitution thereof has been fully and fairly submitted to the people for their adoption, rejection and received the

extra jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of the United States.

6. That we disclaim any right to interfere with slavery in the States where it exists under the shield of State Sovereignty, but we oppose now, as heretofore, its extension into any of the Territories, and will use all proper and constitutional means to prevent such extension.

7. That we do not struggle for a mere party triumph, but for the right, and the good of our whole country, and that we honor those political opponents who have had the manliness to place themselves in opposition to the administration in its assault upon the fundamental principles of American liberty.

8. That Jesse D. Bright and Graham N. Fitch are not of right the representatives of this State in the Senate of the United States, and ought to be immediately ousted therefrom.

9. That we will always resist the scheme of selfish and unscrupulous persons, high in power, having for its object the re-transfer of the Wabash and Erie Canal from the bondholders to the State.

10. That we are in favor of granting to actual settlers on the public land a homestead of at least 160 acres.

DEBATE ON THE PLATFORM.

On the conclusion of the reading, Mr. Hudson said that the committee, coming from all parts of the State, after long and careful consideration, had agreed unanimously on this report, and they urged its adoption by the Convention.

Some gentleman, whose name we did not catch, offered a resolution amending the second resolution of the series by striking out all from the resolving clause, and inserting a reaffirmation of all of the Philadelphia platform applicable to the present state of affairs.

Considerable confusion followed this movement. Motions "to refer," "to lay on the table," "to adopt it," with cries of "Mr. President," and the scuffling of efforts to get the floor, made quite a scene for a few moments. But order was restored immediately, on the call of the President, and a motion to refer the resolution to the committee, under the rule adopted in the morning, was heard and entertained. The Chair decided that under the rule the resolution must go to the committee. The mover appealed from the decision. Mr. S. W. Parker moved to lay the appeal on the table, which was carried by a large majority.

Mr. Riley, of Hancock, arose and protested against the resolution. He said he adhered to his principles against all influences, and he could not be sold out to anybody. He was not in the market. The resolutions be regarded as an abandonment of the principles of the party, and he never would yield to such a step.

Mr. S. W. Parker replied, vindicting at some length the soundness of the resolutions and the wisdom of the course indicated by them.

Mr. Dunn, of Madison, followed Mr. Parker in defense of the platform. He said that if the principles of the Philadelphia Platform were declared that was enough. He did not belong to the crowd that took back anything, and if these resolutions abandoned a solitary vital principle of the party he would not accept them. But they did not. Here he read the resolutions against slavery extension, and the Dred Scott case, and asked what more could any Republican say than those resolutions? He did not want to reaffirm all in the Philadelphia platform, for there were portions of it that were now inapplicable. He instanced the Topeka Constitution, which he said nobody was now in favor of, and argued that an endorsement of that would be impolitic and injurious.

Col. H. S. Lane followed. He said the question was not whether the platform was the same as the Philadelphia platform, but was it right? (Cries of "That's it." "That's the point.") It was right it was no matter whether it had been previously declared at Philadelphia or not. He was in that Philadelphia Convention (was President as our readers are aware—Ed.) and they made a platform suited to their circumstances. We should do the same.

The mover of the resolution affirming the Philadelphia platform, whose name nobody seemed to know, then spoke for it. He said that platform was dear to him, and he hoped to live and die on it. It was cherished in the inmost chamber of his heart. That was all we could catch of his remarks.

While he was speaking Mr. Riley of Hancock, came upon the stand, examined the resolutions carefully, and finding that he had misunderstood them, showed them to the speaker and seemed to urge him to abandon his position. This movement was greeted with furious cheering. When the speaker was through, Mr. Riley came forward and said that after examining the resolution he was satisfied that he had misunderstood them. (Great cheering.) He read them over, and remarked that

What did we do? If we only had substance, that was enough. Mr. Jun. Hays insisted on following the words of the Philadelphia Platform, would probably refuse to pray if he could not find some old form to pray in. (Laughter.) "He reminds me," said Mr. Morton, "of a clergyman who was sent to pray for a man who had been bitten by a rattlesnake. He looked through all his prayer books and could find nothing to suit the case, and he refused to go because his books contained no form of prayer for a man dying of snake bite!" (Great laughter and cheering.) Now the men who met at Philadelphia made their own Platform. They were men of sense, and they could act for themselves. They did not hunt for a form in some platform of 1854, or '52, or '48, but they made just such a one as suited their present case. And why shouldn't we do so too?—(Great applause.) Mr. Morton's speech was a settler so far as this question was concerned—When he was done, Mr. Orth came forward and put the question, "Shall the resolutions as reported by the committee be adopted?" The vote in the affirmative was a tremendous shout. Someone said it was not worth while to put the other side. But Mr. Orth put the negative and some five or six voices responded "no. Some platform was adopted, almost unanimously—This result was greeted with long and hearty cheering, kept up for several minutes.

When order was restored Mr. Hatcher offered the following resolutions:

Resolved, That as long as the Bank of the State of Indiana refuses to pay municipal taxes, just that long its "promises to pay" ought not to be received for State taxes.

Resolved, That all Bank issues under the denomination of ten dollars should be prohibited in Indiana.

A motion to lay them on the table was lost. The question was then taken on the first and one on the table was then made and carried, and the resolutions were disposed of.

Mr. Orth, Mr. Veach, Mr. Cumbach, and Mr. Riley followed in brief, appropriate, and well aimed speeches, in support of the action taken by the Convention, and pledging themselves to do all in their power to carry the ticket through. We have not space to notice their remarks in detail, and indeed the crowded state of the platform, and the difficulty of taking notes, made it impossible to report them with any accuracy.

When Mr. Riley concluded, Mr. Stanfield, of St. Joseph, from the committee to nominate candidates came forward and made the following report of the ticket selected by them for the action of the Convention.

FOR SUPREME JUDGES.
1st Dist.—HORACE P. BIDELE, of Cass;
2nd Dist.—ABRAHAM HENDRICKS, of Jefferson;
3rd Dist.—SIMON YANDES, of Marion;
4th Dist.—WM. D. GRISWOLD, of Vigo.

ATTORNEY GENERAL.
WILLIAM T. OTTO, of Floyd.

TREASURER OF STATE.
JOHN H. HARPER, of St. Joseph.

AUDITOR OF STATE.
ALBERT LANGE, of Vigo.

SECRETARY OF STATE.
WILLIAM A. PEELE, of Randolph.

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.
JOHN YOUNG, of Marion.

It was moved that the ticket be unanimously accepted by the Convention, which carried, and the ticket was approved with three tremendous cheers.

Mr. Ray then moved that the committee on the selection of a State Central Committee report to night at 7 o'clock, which prevailed.

A motion to adjourn six o'clock was then made and carried, and the President announced the Convention adjourned six o'clock. He also announced that a ratification meeting would be held at the Hall at 7 o'clock. The Convention then adjourned.

Evening Meeting.

A ratification meeting to endorse the proceedings of the Convention, and disposed of unfinished business commenced at 7 o'clock. P. A. Hackleman, Esq., of Rush, was made president, and taking the chair made a brief speech.

In the course of his remarks he told an anecdote which contained a hard slap against the Sentinel. A negro boy on a steamboat was asked who he belonged to. He replied that he belonged to Capt. George that morning, but his master had been playing poker all day, and he did not know whose nigger he was now. So it was with the Sentinel. Its owners had been playing poker and had transferred it about several times of late. It was now doing the best it could for Leecompton and slavery.

STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

The Committee appointed to nominate an Executive Committee made the following report, which was unanimously adopted:

Chairman.—M. C. Garber, of Jefferson.

1st District.—James Mason, of Knox; Jas. C. Veach, of Spencer; Conrad Baker, of Vanderburgh.

2nd District.—John W. Ray, of Clark; Walter C. Gresham, of Harrison; Alfred Hays, of Scott.

3rd District.—John R. Cravens, of Jefferson; Isaac Leeper, of Lawrence; Simon Stanifer, of Bartholomew.

4th District.—David G. Rabb, of Ohio; Abraham Hendricks, of Decatur; Pleasant A. Hackleman, of Rush.

5th District.—Nelson Trusler, of Fayette; John C. Lyle, of Wayne; Thos. M. Brown, of Randolph.

6th District.—Benj. Harrison, of Marion; Joseph Miller, of Hendricks; A. S. Griggs, of Morgan.

7th District.—Thomas H. Nelson, of Vigo; D. C. Donahue, of Putnam; Geo. K. Steele, of Parke.

8th District.—Dr. Labaree of Montgomery; Godlove O. Behm, of Tippecanoe; Geo. Wagoner, of Warren.

9th District.—A. L. Osborn, of Laporte; D. D. Pratt, of Cass; Mark L. Demotte, of Porter.

10th District.—Thomas G. Harris, of Elkhart.

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English. (Ind.) alluded to the assaults upon the Northern Democrats who